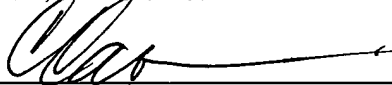


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Vale *et al.*  
Serial No.: 10/761,781  
Filed: 01/20/2004  
Group No.:  
Examiner:  
Entitled: Assays for the Detection of Microtubule Depolymerization Inhibitors

**SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE  
TO MARCH 17, 2004 NOTICE TO FILE CORRECTED  
APPLICATION PAPERS**

**Mail Stop - Non-Fee Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<b>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a)(1)(i)(A)</b>	
I hereby certify that this correspondence (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is, on the date shown below, being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	
Dated: <u>March 31, 2004</u>	By: <u></u> Cliff Cannon-Cin

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is responsive to the March 17, 2004 Notice To File Corrected Application Papers.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this communication.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this communication.

Tabs 1-2 are enclosed following page 3 of this communication.